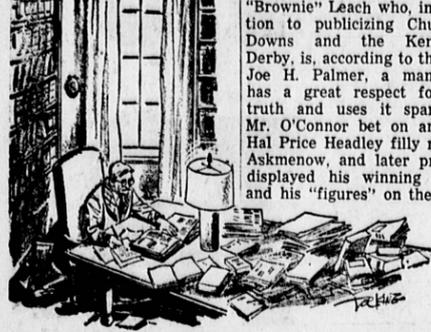


Veres, Burleson Named All-Metro

OFF AND RUNNING by John I. Day

The Art of Handicapping

A real racing fan does not merely try to pick a winner, but instead makes his own handicap of the race; he doesn't ask who you like but asks to see your "figures." Such a man was the late John L. O'Connor, better remembered as "The Sage of Schuylerville." Mr. O'Connor was perhaps more widely known for his library of racing books, now owned by Monmouth Park,



than he was for his handicapping, but on one occasion at Saratoga his figures "stood up," as they say, and, had he been on hand earlier this year at Delaware Park when Hal Price Headley's filly Rash Statement won the Oaks at 45 to 1, he would have been something of a celebrity. The Saratoga incident occurred in 1942 and is vouched for by George B. "Brownie" Leach who, in addition to publicizing Churchill Downs and the Kentucky Derby, is, according to the late Joe H. Palmer, a man who has a great respect for the truth and uses it sparingly. Mr. O'Connor bet on another Hal Price Headley filly named Askmenow, and later proudly displayed his winning ticket and his "figures" on the race.

Wood Wins Hearld's Grid Derby

The winnah and new champion, Bill Wood. The North High basketball coach came through like a champ in the final week of the Herald's football predicting derby to break a tie and finish four games up on second place Jim Hanny, South High basketball coach.

Wood had an 11-4 finale to wind up with a 97-48 season record for 10 weeks.

FINAL STANDINGS and last week's records were:

1. Bill Wood, 97-48 (11-4)
2. Jim Hanny 93-52 (7-8)
3. Doug Anderson 93-53 (9-6)
4. Reid Bundy 92-53 (8-7)
5. Bob Weister 92-53 (9-6)
6. Will Boerger 91-54 (10-5)
7. Bill Schipper 89-56 (9-6)
8. Dave Murphy 88-57 (10-5)
9. Bob Wilton 86-49 (10-5)

SPORTS

34 DECEMBER 1, 1960 BY VENTURA, 66-65

Warriors Nipped In Cliffhanger

By LEE DAY Herald Correspondent Many more games like Tuesday's pulsating 66-65 loss to Ventura and El Camino basketball coach George Stanich could be an early prospect for the Ulcer Club.

A tip-in by Ventura with 17 seconds to go upended the Warriors in their first home junior college tiff of the season.

At one point in the first half, the locals had a 16 point lead. Later, they were down by as much as seven before finally overtaking Ventura only to see the bottom fall out in the last half-minute of play. Midway in the second half

El Camino Duo on First Team

El Camino passing whiz Ron Veres and his chief aerial partner, end Paul Burleson, were named to the all-Metropolitan Conference first team yesterday by Commissioner Cecil Zaun.

Two other Warriors were second team selections, end Jim Hester and guard Joe Costanza.

CONFERENCE champion Long Beach City College, western Junior Rose Bowl representative, dominated the selections with three on the first team and four on the second, while Bakersfield placed five on the two teams.

Veres, a sophomore, pitched 18 touchdown passes during the season in becoming the greatest passer in Warrior history.

Burleson and Hester owned some of the finest hands and were the highest scoring ends in the conference, registering 66 and 30 points, respectively for El Camino during the seven game conference season.

VERES AND Burleson are strong all-America JC candidates.

There were two repeaters on the first all-Metro team this season, tackle Bill Williamson from Bakersfield and San Diego halfback Ed Buchanan.

FIRST TEAM			
Pos.	Player	College	Wt.
E	Paul Burleson	El Camino	175
E	Vern Burke	Bakersfield	195
T	Bill Williamson	Bakersfield	285
T	Mike Giers	Long Beach	230
T	Jim Smith	Long Beach	236
C	Joe Bonilla	Bakersfield	207
C	Arlo Hubbard	East L.A.	210
QB	Ron Veres	El Camino	155
QB	Anthony Lortek	East L.A.	188
B	Ed Buchanan	San Diego	195
B	Dee Andrews	Long Beach	155

Five Warriors On All-Metro Water Polo Set

Long Beach City College water poloists, perennial J C champions, dominated the 1960 All-Metropolitan Conference team with five of the Viking athletes selected by Conference coaches on the first team.

FIRST TEAM			
Pos.	Player	College	Wt.
E	Ken Smith	Long Beach	145
F	Kent Taylor	Long Beach	145
F	William Franklin	El Camino	145
B	Paul Gack	Long Beach	145
B	Murdoch Fraser	Long Beach	145
B	Bob Burt	El Camino	145
G	Lee Bender	Long Beach	145

Amalfitano to Speak at Padre Club Meeting

San Pedro's own national leaguer Joe Amalfitano of the San Francisco Giants, will headline the Padre Club meeting Thursday, Dec. 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the main study hall at Fermin Lasuen High School.

14,777 Hunted Two DFG Pheasant Co-Ops

A total of 14,777 hunters bagged 8,728 pheasants on the Department of Fish and Game's two Southern California co-operative public hunting areas during the 10-day Southland pheasant co-op season that ended Monday.

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FROM THE BRIDGE

Small War Flares Over Shores Hassle

By BILL SCHIPPER—Sports Editor

More Rebuff on Bracket Pairing, All-Tourney Teams

What started out as a one-shot jibe at the bracket-pairing and all-tourney team selecting methods of the Pacific Shores Invitational Basketball Tournament has suddenly flared into a small, open war.

Or so it seems. Charges and counter-charges of "undue criticism" and "misquoting" are being fired back and forth across the South Bay area, particularly from Dean Sempert, Mira Costa High basketball coach, this corner, and another newspaper.

The three of us have slowly dragged much of the area's basketballing public into the line of fire as well, so in case you missed Sunday's episode, let's re-hash and try to clear-up the problem once and for all.

This corner took a pot-shot at the Pacific Shores tournament (sponsored by Redondo, Mira Costa, Aviation) pairing, and another jibe at the all-tourney team selections, which annually tend to reflect a bit of "favoritism" or "leniency" toward the host school players.

Almost before the ink was dried, I received a call from Sempert, who's coached three straight Bay League championship teams.

Dean, whose record as a prep basketball coach is undeniable and enviable, was extremely irred over a statement that the host coaches gave the impression that the tourney bracket was "drawn from a hat."

"We've never said the bracket is drawn from a hat. I don't know of any tournament in Southern California that is drawn from a hat," he said, adding that Redondo and Mira Costa are placed in 'favorable' positions so that it might be possible for them to get to finals night and thus ensure a good turnout at the gate, where sporting events such as the Shores tourney are measured successes or failures.

DEAN DEFENDED the players who have been selected to the all-tourney teams in the past and said that no favoritism is shown by the all-tourney team committee which, incidentally, is composed of the three host coaches.

Later, in another newspaper, he shot back at my terms for the host schools early round opponents, which were dubbed "patsies." Dean labeled Beverly Hills, his first foe this year, as "one of the better clubs of the tournament." He didn't evaluate Redondo's opponent—Lawndale, one of the newer and weaker basketball schools in the area.

Now it's my turn—again.

You don't have to go any further than Bill Hungate, El Segundo High basketball coach, to find where I drew the assumption that the South Bay high schools tried to impress that the tourney pairings are drawn from a hat.

Bill was told just that two years ago, after he put up a squawk when he felt his club was being "used" year after year by stronger basketball teams—who had fun in running up their scores against the Eagles, who have seen, and will see again, better days.

And, Dean, I know of two tournaments in particular involving local schools which make their tournament draws out of a hat. One is the Covina Invitational, the other is our own Torrance district Bee tournament.

And if Sempert really believes that Beverly Hills is one of the better teams in the tournament, I can assure local fans that they might just as soon save their money and stay home from this year's competition, beginning Dec. 7 through 10.

Beverly was tough last year, but the Normans are woefully weak this semester after losing all but one squad member from the '59-60 edition.

Coach Chuck Reilly and the entire Pioneer League will tell you that much.

It's in the open now that the pairings are "strategically matched" so it doesn't take a seasoned-eye to tell that the host schools went out of their ways to set themselves up, again in '60 as in the past.

Mira Costa, which probably will and would've anyway, regardless, reach the semi-finals or finals and Redondo, which was hard hit by graduation last year, are almost insured of playing at least three games, since "fifth place" was added this fall, giving an extra game to some of the schools.

And while the pairings' upper bracket (Mira Costa's) is conspicuously absent of some of the stronger clubs, the lower bracket is teeming with them.

Including Culver City, Glendale, and North Torrance, who, on paper, are as strong as any teams in the area, but must wade through each other to get into the finals on Saturday night.

It doesn't matter that much—because a championship team should be able to beat 'em all anyway, but these schools almost have one strike against them before the tourney even opens.

Sempert's teams have reached the finals of the Pacific Shores for the last five years. I'm not trying to take anything away from him. In fact, my original needle (Sunday) was not even pointed at him.

He's turned out more outstanding college prospects than possibly all the other coaches in the Bay or Pioneer Leagues combined during the last half-a-dozen years. His record speaks for itself.

But as an observer or interpreter of facts he is a much better coach.

It's time to wake up. Not only is this corner and possibly two of the entering Torrance high schools unhappy with the trend of the tournament, but also several other basketball coaches in the area who've seen what's happened in the past and are beginning to grumble a bit.

ADDING SALT to an already bitter cake is the Pacific Shores method of all-tourney team picking. Sempert says, and I agree, that more coaches should worry less about getting their players on the mythical all-star squad and worry more about winning ball games.

But this still doesn't excuse the fact host players are given more "considerations," if you please, at all-tourney pickin' time.

Again, I need only mention that three Mira Costa boys were all-tourney players last year, in the eyes of the team selecting committee. This isn't a jibe, just an observation.

Of course, as long as you have all-tourney teams, all-star teams, all-league teams, etc. etc., you'll always have differences of opinion.

I've expressed mine.

I'll do it again after the next all-tourney team is picked and forgotten in two weeks.

It'll be interesting to see what happens.

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